



**Governor's Forest Health Advisory Council Meeting**  
**July 30, 2003 – 1:30 PM**  
**Northern Arizona University, Student Union – Kaibab Room**

**MINUTES**

**In Attendance:**

Thomas Swetnam (via phone)  
Don Falk (via phone)  
Wally Covington, NAU  
Brian Nowicki, Center Biodiversity  
Karl Siderits, USDA FS  
Jeff Schatzki, Governor's Office  
Steve Campbell, U of A

Taylor McKinnon, Grand Canyon Trust  
Carl Edminster, USDA FS  
John Kennedy, AZ Game and Fish  
Kirk Rowdabaugh, State Land Dept.  
Edward Smith, The Nature Conservancy  
Deborah Hill, Coconino Cty Board of Supervisors.  
Marty Moore, Eastern AZ Counties

Absent: Beth Zimmerman, Robert Lacapa, Richard Van Demark

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**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 1:42 PM by Chairman McKinnon

**Introduction of Participants – Attendees**

Participants introduced themselves and stated their affiliation.

**Discussion and Action**

**Committee Announcements:** The subcommittee has meet via email. All related documentation will be distributed at a later date for discussion.

**Subcommittee Reports:** Terminology & Definitions Working Group has created a preliminary list of definitions that is now available for discussion. Please e-mail questions and comments to Ed Smith within the next month. Addressing the status and intent of the committee is currently a work in progress.

**Greater Flagstaff Economic Council and Savannah Pacific: *Private/Public Sector Partnership for Forest Restoration*** Not in attendance.

**Discussion and Possible Council Action on Guiding Principles for Forest Management.** Mr. Nowlan informed the board that he has begun to work on a preliminary guideline of principles. This list has been sorted by category based on available documentation. This information will be forwarded to Ms. Cox for further compilation. Ms. Cox would like assistance from the council to compile this comprehensive report, it should be written collectively. In addition, more feedback from experts is needed. Things that should be considered in the future: Is this list complete and if not what is missing?

**GOALS: Establish a subcommittee for each goal?** Discussion by the council concluded that group collaboration is necessary to complete the guiding principles for design and implementation of restoration. For all other goals, it will be possible to divide into subcommittees. Ms. Cox will be the coordinator with committee supervision. Group participation will be conducted via email and comments forwarded to Ms. Cox. Clarification needs to be made on who will be responsible for next action items.

Chairman McKinnon stated that comments need to be gathered from the public as well as experts. The Governors Office would like to receive the guidelines within six weeks. Aggregate list due by August 13<sup>th</sup>. Proposal to the board by Mr. Nowlan to have joint council with the Oversight Committee to hear Jeff Cohen speak and conduct a two day workshop to develop a resolution. Chairman McKinnon stated deadlines as follows:

August 6, 2003                      Principles Due

August 13, 2003      Aggregate List Due  
August 20-21, 2003   Workshop in Show Low

Mr. Rowdabaugh suggested that the guiding principles are priority and all other goals could be delayed. Chairman and council agreed.

For the record, a suggestion was made that New Mexico would be a good source for information concerning goal two.

ED SMIT-LCD project for board to review minutes (working documents) Heather-Concur.

Mr. Campbell to assist Ms. Garbarino with planning of future workshop. Request to council to forward requests to Ms. Garbarino.

**Presentation by the White Mountain Regional Development Corporation: *Forest Thinning Treatment Program Utilizing Industry.*** Handouts: copy of presentation, and Position Paper to the Arizona Congressional Delegation Forest Restoration and Economic Growth.

Mr. Moffitt relayed to the Council that the lifetime of the plant is 25-30 years and small Pine is suitable for OSB (depending on moisture content). He explained a recent change in corporate attitude to "no dirty industry". Assurances have been given to everyone that environmental aspects of the corporate identity has changed dramatically. The plant is not to push out local incentive. There are future plans for grants to be issued to insure small business and a guaranteed loan program for those to rebuild local infrastructure. It is a unique project because the marketplace is local (AZ/NV). The product could be chipped up and used for biomass.

Mr. Nowlan remarked that a landscape approach is required which has been met. How will this derail or skew our priorities? There is a possibility prioritization will be lost. Mr. Moffitt responded by informing the council that Savannah Pacific has equipment available to preserve and is environmentally friendly. Their goal is to make the forest healthy for the future. There is a monitoring process that would identify a committee or the stakeholders to mediate during pre-production, production and post monitoring of wildlife, public safety, and everything related. Ms. Hill commented that it is premature to get useful feedback. Maybe after work on guiding principles has been established, this issue could be revisited.

Note to the media: the Forest Service follows Arizona Law, Acts and Legislation. This plant is being presented as potential opportunity. The forest service is asking questions and has not discussed with everyone at this time.

Future questions to be mediated thru Corey Cox.

#### Announcements and Public Comments

Mr. Nowlan informed he has a prior commitment scheduled for the date of the future workshop. Permission from council for Todd Schulke to proxy? Governor's Office to follow up with guidelines, council to be notified at that time.

Chairman McKinnon advised that a statement by the Advisory for Wildlife Urban Interface will be provided after the principle guidelines have been established.

Mr. Nowlan stated that the definitions should be explored exhaustively to satisfy all interpretation. Dr. Cohen can elaborate.

Ms. Garbarino requested the council relay and any all information to both herself and Ms. Cox.

Ms. Cox informed the council that a Website for Forest Health Oversight and Advisory is in progress. Please email any comments and suggestions.

A request was made to the Governor's Office to allow additional experts to the Council. Council to be notified of response.

#### Adjournment

Hearing no other business, meeting adjourned by Chairman McKinnon at 3:39 PM.